GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5998
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2001
UPGRADATION OF FISHING SECTOR
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have initiated any programme for upgrading the mechanised fishing sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken for expansion of the `Shore to Fishing Vessel` communication system to the fishermen living in all the coastal States and the island groups; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of `Development of Marine Fisheries`, about 33,000 traditional craft have been sanctioned for motorisation so far.
Besides, reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD oil supplied to mechanised fishing vessels below 20 metre length covering about 18,000 such fishing vessels on an average per annum is provided.

(c)&(d): Under `Shore to Fishing Vessel` communication system, facilities were provided to demonstrate the technology of communication for the benefit of coastal fishermen in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Goa during 8th Five Year Plan under Phase-I.

During 9th Five Year Plan, under Phase-II of the `Shore to Fishing Vessel` Communication System, establishment of shore stations is envisaged in 10 places in the States of West Bengal, Orissa, Maharashtra and Goa and in the Union Territories of Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakhshadweep Islands.